

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 5 on page 13 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The LSR 102 receiving the LSP setup request 401 checks whether the LSP has a common route to the egress LSR 103 from the LSR 102 (step S2 of FIG. 2). When such LSP is not present, merging is not performed and the process is transit to a procedure for setting the LSP (step S12 of FIG. 2).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 20 on page 27 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Attempt is made to establish the LSP from the LSR 112 to the LSR 118. Then, the bandwidth of the newly established LSP is assumed to be 20 ~~Sec/sec~~ Mbit/sec.